

Grant will help improve technology

Ashley Lawrence
Staff Writer

Police in the City of Romulus will become even more efficient, thanks to a Local Law Enforcement Block Grant (LLEBG).

The \$22,573 grant, announced during the regular city council meeting Monday night by Police Chief Charles Kirby, will be used to upgrade computer hardware and software used by the department.

Since 1996, the Romulus department has been awarded funds through the grant program Kirby said.

The LLEBG program provides funds to units of local government to help pay for projects that reduce crime and improve public safety.

There are seven specific areas for which the grant funds can be used in order to help fight crime.

It can be used to support new law enforcement, to enhance security measures, to establish or

support drug courts, to enhance the adjudication of cases involving violent offenders, establish a task force, establish crime prevention programs or to defray the cost of indemnification insurance.

"Technology is very important to law enforcement," said Kirby. "We will use this money to complete upgrades of existing software and hardware."

The 2003 grant amount is drastically reduced from the 1996 figure of \$52,000.

While in most cases a decrease in the amount of the grant would be a bad thing, in this case it is a good thing, Kirby said.

"The amount of money given is dependent on the crime rate," said Kirby. "As the crime rate goes down, the amount of money in the grant also goes down."

This grant is awarded to high-risk areas and as an area becomes safer from Part One crimes, or serious crimes, the amount is decreased.

"When we first began receiving this grant in 1996, our amount was \$56,000," said Kirby. "That's a drastic drop in seven years."

Kirby said the grant also helps other departments in the city.

"By using this money for our technology costs, it allows the money that would normally be spent in the police departments budget on technology to be spent within other departments that really need it," said Kirby.

The police department will also contribute a local match of \$2,508.



34th District Court Judge Tina Brooks Green, from left, District Court Judge Sara Smolenski and 46th District Court Judge Susan Moiseev met Democratic Leader of the House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi, (D-San Francisco) at the 25th National Association of Women Judges.

Judge learns from peers at conference

Tina Brooks Green, the chief judge at the 34th District Court, which serves the cities of Belleville and Romulus and the townships of Huron, Sumpter and Van Buren, took the trip of a lifetime in early October.

She made her way to Washington D.C. for the 25th Annual National Association of Women Judges Conference.

"I could have never imagined the conference," said Green. "It was so much more than I ever thought it could be."

The five-day conference welcomed more than 450 female judges from the United States, as well as around the world.

"It was amazing to sit and speak with these female judges from all over the place," said Green. "To get their point of view on different issues and cases was interesting."

Green was struck with a Serbian judge she met and with whom she had breakfast during the week. She said they began discussing the Andrea Yates case in Texas. Yates killed her five children and pleaded insanity, but was found guilty.

"She said that was outrageous that she was sent to prison, because she was obviously insane to kill her children and something like that would never happen in her country," said Green. "It shocked me, because of all the human rights problems they have in Serbia, that a case

such as this in the United States would cause such a reaction."

"All of these women are trying to change the world," she said. "It was inspiring to see all of these women come together as women, regardless of race or culture to deal with issues that are important to women."

Some of the issues addressed during the conference included domestic violence, women in prison, implications of drug policies on women and children and human rights through out the world.

The women were also surprised by a visit from the First Lady Laura Bush.

"She came in and talked about how wonderful it was that we could all get together and make a difference in women's issues."

However, the thrill of the whole trip for Green came when the women were bused to the United States Supreme Court.

"It was incredible, awesome, anything you can think of," said Green. "It was all decked out and so beautiful."

The women were guests at a reception just outside the chamber doors to the Supreme Court. They were also honored by the presence of the only two current sitting female Supreme Court Justices, Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Sandra Day O'Connor.

"The whole conference was simply amazing."

Democrats fight Republican trash

Democrats in the state House of Representatives continue to express frustration that their efforts to curb interstate trash flow are being ignored by Republicans.

State representative Hoon-Yung Hopgood (D-Taylor) and House Democrats, including house Democratic Leader Dianne Byrum (D-Onondaga) scheduled a press conference last week during which Hopgood unveiled a letter signed by the entire Caucus to Speaker of the House Rick Johnson (R-LeRoy).

The letter requests that Johnson direct the Land Use Environment Committee to schedule a hearing on House Bills 4098 and 4099, legislation that would curb the importation of out-of-state and Canadian trash. If no hearing is scheduled, the letter said, the House Democratic Caucus would have no choice but to pursue a discharge motion to bring these bills to the house floor for a vote.

"Since these bills were introduced in January of this year, more than 2.7 million tons of out-of-state and Canadian trash has been dumped in our communities," said Hopgood. "Items like car batteries, sewage sludge, asbestos, radioactive waste and even illegal drugs are crossing our borders in the back of out-of-state trucks every day. Michigan citizens are sick and tired of being a dumping ground. It's time this legislature stood up against the trash lobby and for the people of Michigan."

The bills put forward by Hopgood and House Democrats are: HB 4098, which allows Michigan to reject trash from states that have a regulatory system less stringent than the rules we impose ourselves and HB 4099, which adds returnable containers to the list of prohibited items.



Pup talk

Fire Safety Day presenters from the Romulus Fire Department Jason Pittman and "Fire Pup" Mike Wojtylko talked to students at Romulus Elementary about fire safety and prevention.

All decked out

Decorators ready homes for annual holiday tour

Scott Spielman
Editor

The Northville Community Foundation will offer an opportunity next week to visit some of the most prestigious homes in the community, and help out several good causes at the same time.

The foundation Holiday Home Tour will take place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. 14 and 15, according to Shari Peters, executive director of the community foundation.

The home tour is among the largest and most popular single fundraisers for the foundation, she said. Currently heading the up the effort to rebuild the farm at Maybury State Park, the foundation also has endowments for many other charitable efforts, she said.

"This fund raiser really benefits all of our endowments," Peters said. The interest accrued on the endowments funds each year is donated to local charitable efforts, while the principal in the funds aren't touched.

The holiday hour tour matches five interior designers with five homes throughout the Northville community, according to Peters.

This year, participants will find a variety of homes from contemporary to cozy colonials, newer homes with all the modern amenities and older homes with unique interior features.

"They're all gorgeous, and that is before the holiday decorations," Peters said.

There are five homes on the tour this year. Among them is one of the breathtaking residents in the upscale Bellagio subdivision off Beck Road between Eight and Nine Mile roads.

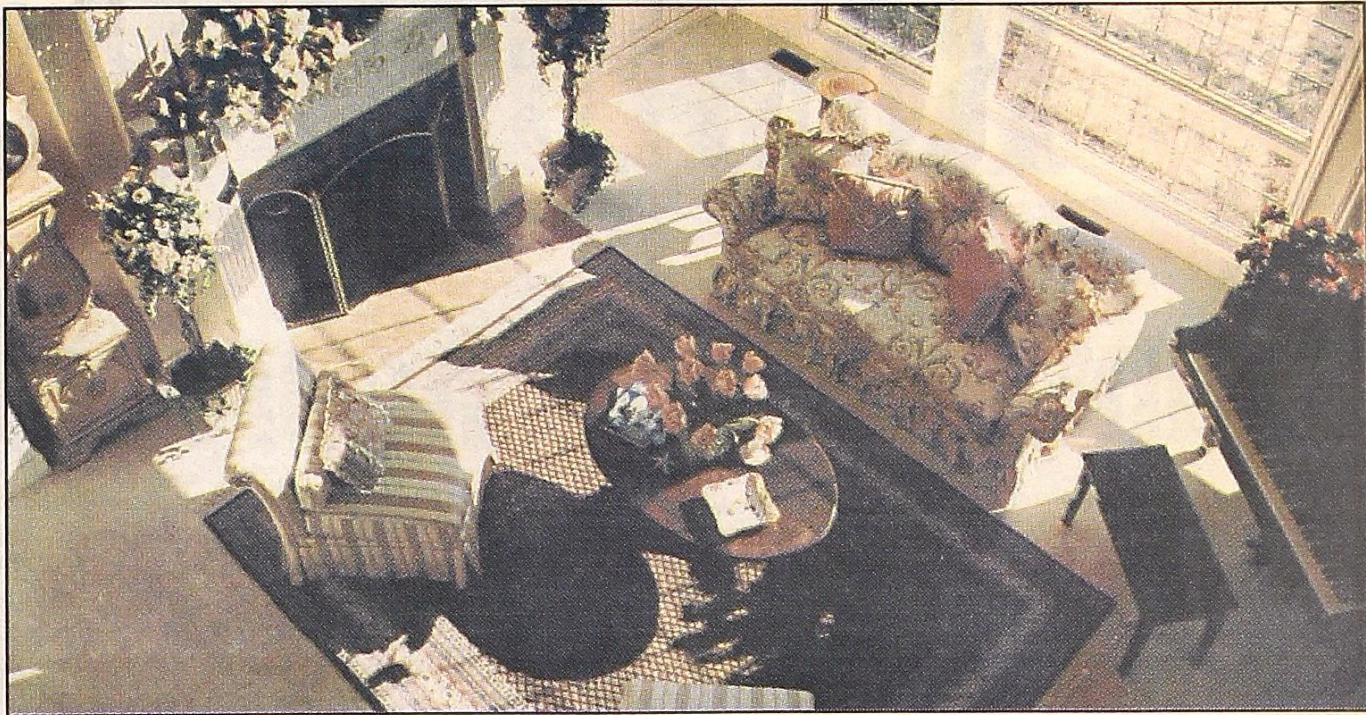
They range in size from 3,000 square feet to more than 7,000 square feet.

Cathy Pratt, of Catherine's Interiors by Design, said she was delighted with a lot of room to work with in the home.

"We're going to treat each room as its own special area," she said.

All decorations will spring from the French country theme throughout the home, said Pratt, who was a floral designer before she returned to college at the age of 45.

"I like to enhance, rather than overwhelm people with decorations," she said.



Other homes include one in the Stonewater subdivision that overlooks a lake. Already decorated with neutral tones, the two-year old home will get a special touch from designer Michael McKnight - he said that everything he brings into the home will be living.

A third house in the Woods of Edenberry subdivision is breathtaking both inside and outside, with plenty of outdoor patios and garden, a two level deck with a flowing fountain.

Peters said she found the house when she was driving by one day and the homeowner was out in her extensive garden. After a quick conversation, she had signed up for the tour, Peters said. The home also features an entertainer's dream in the basement - there's a 'never ending' bar big screen television and more.

The other homes include a 25-year old residence upgraded two years ago with a new master suite. The walk-in closets feature a washer and dryer.

The final home is occupied by former Florida residents, according to Peters. Decorated in sage and custard, the home reflects the bright airiness of the sunshine state.

The homeowner is a designer herself, and it shows in the kitchen, one of the many highlights of the home.

In addition to Pratt and McKnight, who is from Emerald City Designs in Farmington Hills, designers include Peggy Robison of Preferences, Leigh Pisolisi of French's Flowers in Livonia and Patty Baker from Village Green in Livonia.

"Catherine and Patty are new to the home tour and we are anxious to see their work," Peters said. "Both have worked on numerous holiday projects."

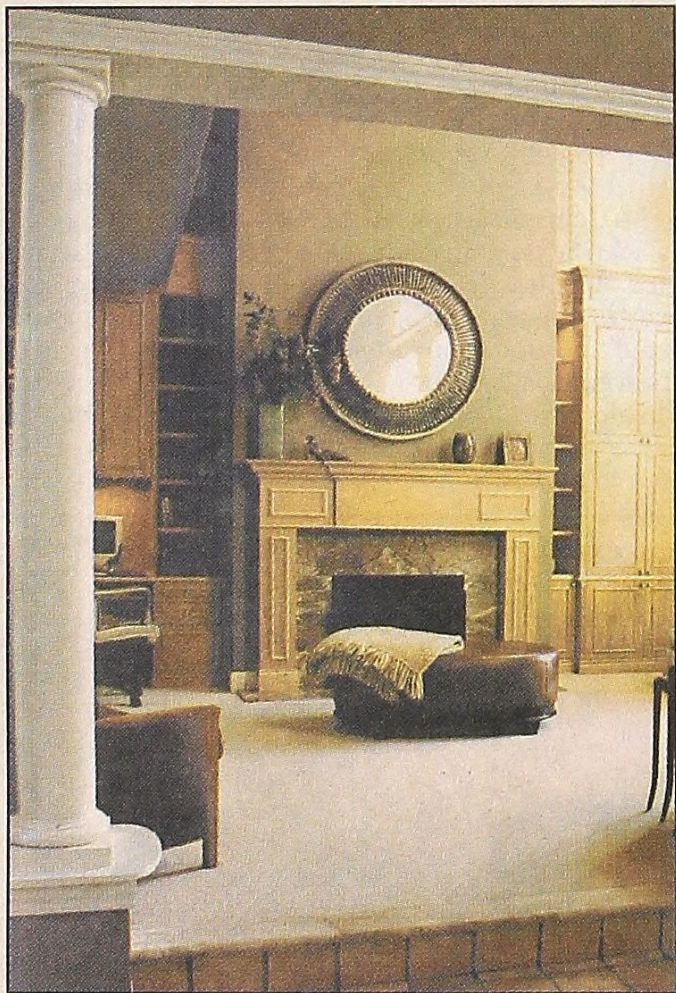
Tickets for the event are \$18. They're available at Preferences, Changing Seasons, the Community Federal Credit Union, Gardenviews, the Northville Chamber of Commerce and the foundation office in Northville and at French's Flowers in Livonia.

Peters said anyone that wants to take the home tour shouldn't wait too long to purchase their tickets, though.

"It's usually sold out," she said.



Cathy Pratt of Catherine's Interiors by Design in Brighton said she is looking forward to decorating a Bellagio home for the Northville Community Foundation Home Tour.



The five homes on the home tour, which range from 3,000-7,000 square feet in size, are admirably decorated before the designers add their holiday flair.

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Romulus schools celebrate Red Ribbon Week

Ashley Lawrence
Staff Writer

Romulus Schools celebrated "Red Ribbon Week 2003" last week. The national program, sponsored by the D.A.R.E. program helps teach children and young adults how to make the right choice when it comes to using drugs.

During the week, the schools featured a number of activities for students having to do with a "Say No to Drugs" message.

As part of the program, storyteller LaRon Williams visited the schools.

Williams uses music and stories to get the message to students to say no to drugs. At Cory Elementary School, Williams had the gym filled with grades four through six laughing, singing along and using their

minds to understand the message.

The stories he tells always have a lesson in them.

"They always have something about cooperation, self-esteem, peaceful conflict resolution," said Williams. "Things that kids can understand and use in their lives."

This day one of the most important lessons Williams taught was that "no matter how hard the job, no matter what the differences, we can all pull together to get a job done".

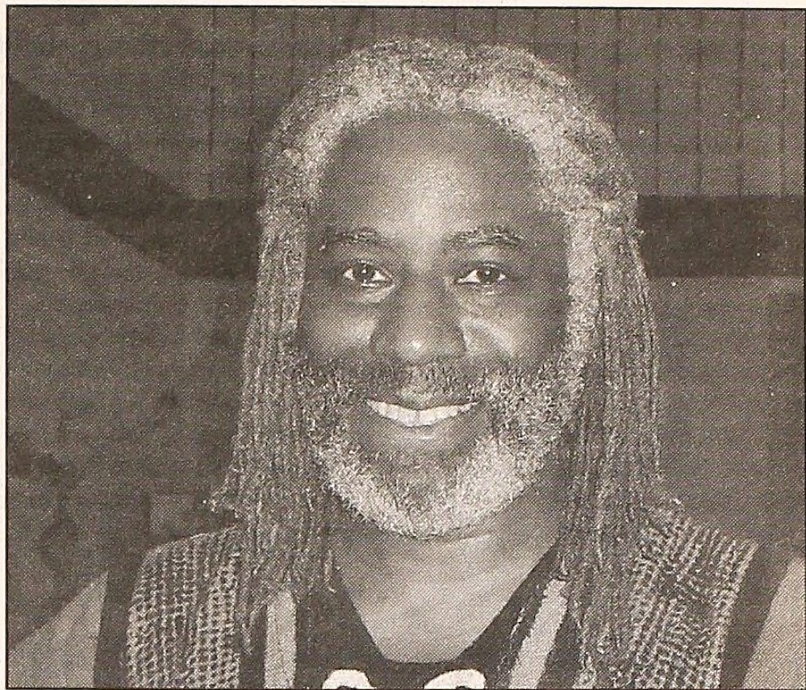
He then told the children to choose their friends wisely, because if they chose the right type of friends they will be there to help say no to drugs.

Principal Phyllis Adkins was impressed with his performance and message to the students at Cory Elementary.

"Kids need assistance saying no to drugs," said Adkins. "It has been proven that kids who are encouraged to say no to drugs, get good grades and have a support system at home and in school are less likely to take drugs. That is our goal."

Fourth through sixth grade students at the school will be required to write an essay about the say no to drugs message and a student from each class will be chosen to receive a D.A.R.E. t-shirt.

In grades kindergarten through three, students will be required to draw a picture depicting them making the right decision and saying no to drugs. Winners will be chosen from each school and their pictures will be seen on grocery bags at the Marketplace Grocery Store in downtown Romulus.



LaRon Williams, made his way to all the Romulus elementary schools last week in honor of Red Ribbon Week 2003. Williams told musical stories and sent children a message about saying no to drugs.

Recreation center offers new programs

Romulus residents of all ages looking for fun and creative activities should look no further than the Romulus Recreation Center.

"We really want to help the youth of this community," said Herb Buckley, director of the recreation center. "We want kids to know there is a place for them to come and participate in activities and have fun in their own community."

Some of the programs currently offered at the center include after school floor hockey for girls and boys in third through sixth grade.

Beginning Nov. 18 on Tuesdays and Thursdays, students from Barth, Cory, Halecreek and Romulus Elementary can strap on their skates, get some exercise and play a little hockey.

The recreation center also offers a number of classes for adults and children. Currently pilates, karate, dance and tumblebunnies/gymnastics classes are starting for the season.

"We want to improve the quality of life of our residents," said Buckley. "People can get involved

with these activities, stay fit and have fun doing it. That is our goal."

Another goal of the department is to build a new recreation department in the near future.

"Our programs are expanding," said Buckley. "And we want them to be able to expand further."

The recreation center also sponsors events within the Romulus schools such as the annual Daddy/Daughter dance in October. More than 300 fathers and daughters attended the annual event.

"We try to get the whole family involved in activities and events," said Buckley.

The recreation department also takes care of local parks such as Fernandez Park at Fort and Van Born.

"We were able to refurbish the park with a grant we received from the State of Michigan," he said. "It is nice to be able to keep our parks looking good."

For more information on programs and activities offered by the Romulus Recreation Department call (734) 942-6852.



Stephanie Edwards, owner of DaVette's Café and Desserts on Merriman Road, named her new business in memory of her daughter who inspired her career as a baker.

Bittersweet tribute New cafe named in memory of owner's daughter

Ashley Lawrence
Staff Writer

Stephanie Edwards is not a woman to give up easily. Or at all.

"It all started about 21 years ago," explained Edwards. "I went to a bakery to get a birthday cake for my daughter who loved the Cabbage Patch Kids and that is where it all began."

Edwards requested that the local bakery use chocolate frosting for the faces of the Cabbage Patch Kids to represent an African American skin color. The bakery declined.

"On the way home I stopped and got all of the ingredients I would need to make my own cake and so started my career," said Edwards.

Edwards was working during the day at AAA of Michigan, but by night she was a baker receiving many requests for her baked goods.

Then in 1989, this college graduate spent \$25 for a cake class.

"That was the best \$25 I have ever spent in my life," said Edwards.

During the late 80s and 90s, Edwards continued her double career while raising four children.

One of her daughters, DaVette, took her mother's hobby to heart and did everything she could do to help her during her late night bake-a-thons.

"She would come in and say 'Mom you look tired go take a nap and I will wake you up so you can finish,'" said Edwards. "She would go with me to deliver the cakes and even critique them

after I was done."

As the years went on, Edwards kept receiving more and more orders until she finally began thinking about opening up bakery of her own.

Then in 1999, DaVette, died from bacterial meningitis.

"It was so sudden," said Edwards. "She was fine, she just had her normal sinus infection, then she was rushed to the hospital and she passed about an hour after that."

Edwards was crushed by the death of her 16-year-old daughter.

"Everyone who knew her loved her. She was a great daughter," said Edwards.

The newly opened DaVette's Café and Desserts is a tribute to her daughter and was named in her memory.

"She was the one that pushed me and helped me and I thought it was only proper that what she helped create be named after her," said Edwards.

Now, Edwards is looking on to bigger and better things.

The new bakery located on Merriman Road offers everything from cookies to pies to cakes. The bakery also offers coffee and cappuccino.

"Everything is homemade each morning," said Edwards.

DaVette's will also be carrying specialty cakes and pies for Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Eve.

For more information on DaVette's Café and Desserts call (734) 595-7555.



Ashleigh Cofield and her father, Rodney, attended the annual Daddy/Daughter dance in October. The event was sponsored by the Romulus Recreation Center.

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OPINION

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Actions speak louder...

When the State of Michigan set out to sell 423 acres of land it owned along Seven Mile Road in Northville Township, the situation had the potential for an ideal intergovernmental relationship.

Township planners had just completed a concept plan for the corridor, and state officials expressed an interest in it as a way to maximize the land use – and the price – for the site. They also included a willingness to work with the local government in the bid specifications, so township officials had reasons to be hopeful.

In the end, though, it may turn to be a case of ‘everyone for themselves,’ and township officials will be hard pressed to make sure the existing residents aren’t the ones to suffer.

State officials, in their zeal to sell the land to the highest bidder, may have set the price too high. The developers, in their desire to put their name on one of the prime pieces of property in western Wayne County, may have paid too much for it. Township officials are left with far less than they had hoped for – they wanted 50 acres of land for their own use and 20 acres for a new elementary school. It’s still early in the process, the plans presented last week still very preliminary, but there is a significant gap to be overcome if either of those wishes are turned into reality.

And that’s too bad. Township officials should be commended for realizing the potential of development on the land. When they started the development of the Seven Mile Road Corridor concept plan, the hospital was still in operation and the thought that it might one day be sold was nothing but conjecture and rumor.

They did their job well, though, as they tried to put smart planning into place that would serve the future of the township. It’s our hope that that work won’t be in vain, that township officials will be able to work with Real Estate Interests, Inc. (REI) for the successful development of that property.

And in our opinion, the successful development of that property is more along the lines of the concept put forth by township officials. It includes more than a minimal amount of open space. It doesn’t overburden an already taxed sewer system. It doesn’t replace rolling hills and old copses of trees for houses and condominiums crammed onto 45-foot lots. It is respectful of the land, the rolling hills and the aged ecosystem. It is remindful of the work that went into the concept plan, in the first place.

Unfortunately, for that to happen a complete revisit of the fabled drawing board may be required. The state should reevaluate what they want from the land, and whether they actually want to work with the local officials, or merely give them lip service.

A word to the wise

This editorial was written before the results of the various elections throughout the coverage area of *The Journal Newspapers*.

That’s OK, though, because the message is intended for anyone that successfully wins election in any of those municipalities.

Many of the stories that come out of the elections this year will strike similar chords – low voter turnout, voter apathy; perhaps we’ll see a number of new faces in places where there are strong incumbents.

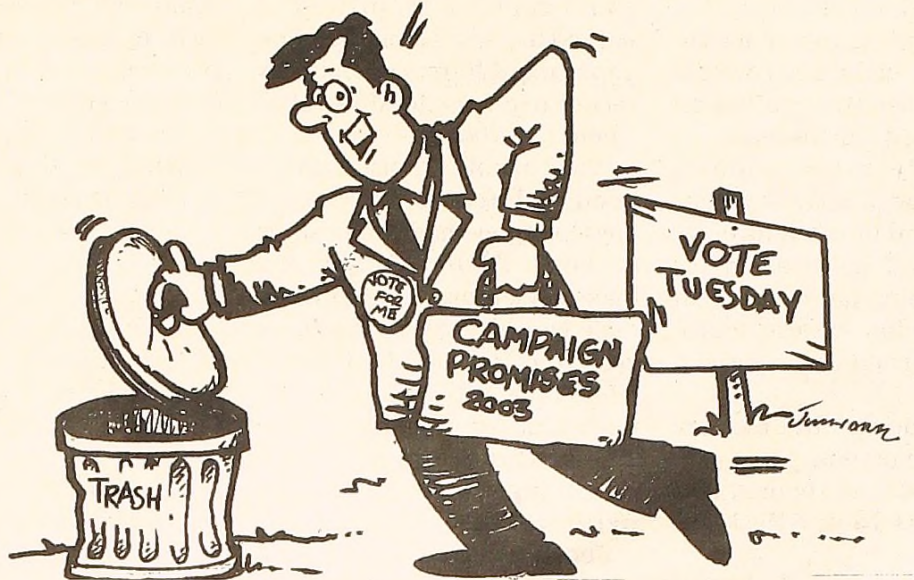
The candidates themselves can have some impact on these issues.

Everyone makes promises on their way to local elected glory. Nobody wants to offend any segment of a population when a relatively small number of voters is needed to win a race, or to lose one.

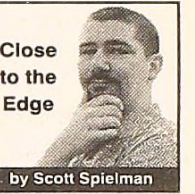
Among the top promises that many candidates will have trouble keeping, if the budget situation for the current year doesn’t improve, is the promise to maintain services while making budget cuts, which may

See **Advice**, page 6

AS SOON AS I DITCH THIS BAGGAGE,
I CAN GET TO WORK...!



Principals of convenience



Events like the Great Pumpkin Caper in downtown Plymouth make me wonder if water is really our most abundant resource.

Watching the hundreds, if not thousands, of children traipse through the street, dressed in colorful costumes, makes me believe that kids are even more prevalent.

The streets were crowded again with children Thursday night, and many of them got an eyeful as they walked past the mostly vacant NBD building on the corner of Main Street and Penniman Avenue.

That’s where censored pictures of ‘pornography’ downloaded from the world wide web were on display for all to see. The pictures were from the publication housed there, and apparently set up so all could view some of the appalling things that can go on in any small town. The fact that it gave the publication another excuse to take a swipe at the former publisher probably didn’t factor into the decision to take these pictures from the Internet, where they must be sought out, and put them all in a window where anyone will see them.

Keep in mind that, however distasteful it is to most of us, there is nothing implicitly illegal about pornography, which is a word with a definition that even courts have disagreed upon.

Welcome to America, where free speech is celebrated.

In fact, it reminds me of a somewhat similar situation I encountered back when I worked at *The Community Crier*, under former publisher W. Edward Wendover. It was in the summertime.

Back then, we had a staffer who was truly a gifted artist. Her ultimate ambition at the time was to go into the field of medical illustration. She drew sketches of well-known Plymouth, Canton and

Northville officials for an old Fall Festival edition of the paper, and even painted the cover one year, too. And she also, for one of her live modeling classes, sketched out a series of breathtaking nude works.

Now, these weren’t breathtaking because they were naked people. They were incredible in the talent evidenced by them, the reverence to the form, the fluid lines and the detail. Wendover, captivated by the quality of the work, placed them in the front window to promote an upcoming art fair.

Soon after that, Tom Prose, who owns the NBD building where the pictures and story are now posted – at least as of Monday morning – parked in front of the office and approached the front window with his wife and children and a camera.

He directed his kids to look at the display, even though they indicated that they didn’t want to, and then took pictures of them looking at the nude sketches.

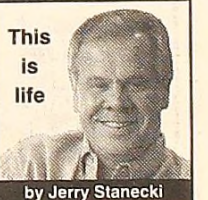
“Your boss is going to be sorry he ever messed with me,” he said as he left.

I have to admit I thought about duplicating the entire scene. I’ve got a son, a camera. I could have taken Henry down to the old bank and taken his picture while he looked at the pictures posted behind the glass. But I gave up antics like that when I was in high school, if not before.

Besides, as a person who weighs in on local public policy and issues, I know the value of avoiding hypocrisy and double standards; I know the importance of looking over personal grudges – however real or imagined that they might be – and maintaining objectivity. I know the value of our right to free speech, and I wouldn’t treat it so cavalierly.

Nor would I switch sides on an issue whenever I found it circumstantially convenient.

Talk doesn’t cook rice, action does



There is nothing like a phone call from the doctor to throw a bumner into a beautiful blue sky afternoon.

“Jerry, it’s Mary,” cardiologist Dr. Mary Lazar said. It was not followed by, “You’re doin’ great,” like it has been for the past five years.

“What are we dealing with?” I asked.

“You got blockage in the right coronary artery and...”

The news was not unexpected. All morning I’d had a feeling that all was not good in the aftermath of a stress test I’d taken the day before. Lately, I’d been lacking my full head of energy and for some months had been experiencing heaviness across my chest. I was hoping it wasn’t what the doctor had just told me.

I flashed back to June 1997 when the doctor told me I had serious heart problems and recommended bypass surgery. After more tests and talking with a surgeon it was decided that they’d

do a full house, five bypasses. It had been the worst thing I’ve ever gone through and I sure didn’t want an encore. The doctor suggested the next step be a heart cath, and, if needed, a stent placement during angioplasty.

“Think about it and call me,” she said. “I just did, schedule it.” It was pretty much the same answer I’d given back in ‘97.

I headed for Costco to pick up the medicine she’d ordered and drove with heaviness I’d hadn’t felt in years.

“I’m scared,” I thought walking into the store. Scared and I don’t like it. I started looking at some Mexican pottery and thought, “Forget about buying, you may not be here.” Walking away from the pottery sinking into feeling sorry

See **Action**, page 8

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Action - What one thinks is what one usually is

FROM PAGE 5

for myself, I started getting angry. "Why this?"

Just then, I spotted a bronze sculpture by the late western artist Fredrick Remington. Four hard riding, roatin', tootin', gun slingin', hell rasin' cowboys racing across the prairie on horseback—a famous piece.

Suddenly, a boy about 3 shouted loudly, "Cowboys!" as he ran toward the sculpture.

"Cowboys," he repeated, his head snapping back and forth between mom and the sculpture. He touched one of the six-shooters.

"Don't touch," his mother said getting nervous.

"Cowboys!" he shouted and a wondrous look filled the pudgy face.

The boy was completely filled with genuine awe and amazement as he gently touched the bronze.

How wonderful it felt as this child removed dark thoughts of self-pity from a man's mind and

replaced them with delight. I smiled.

Funny, how when faced with the possibility of checking out, if you can stay out of yourself, everything wonderful around you becomes amplified. I walked toward the prescription department thinking about my recent trip back to Milwaukee where I was born.

Vivid recollections of childhood and detailed dreams of days long gone had been calling me home. I'd decided to go and make myself available to whatever would present itself. A couple of friends had asked why I was going and I'd told them that I really didn't know, then kidded that maybe it was something you did just before you die.

Jeez, I'd better change my humor, I was scaring myself.

I hadn't been scheduled to take a stress test until June. Something told me: Do it now. And, once again, it seems, I've avoided taking a hard fall. The big guy upstairs, I am sure, is

saving my life again. Most people have heart attacks before they find out there is blockage.

I share a lot of talk of creating new powerful, positive pictures and felt it only fair that I share with you the struggle that leads to victory. An old Chinese proverb came to mind: "Talk doesn't cook rice."

It was time for action.

What you think is what you are and right now, I feel good.

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Advice - Remember who voted

FROM PAGE 5

be drastic in some communities.

We know this is difficult, we know it's a bit of campaign rhetoric everyone can refer to. It's an easy thing to say, afterward, that you tried and were unsuccessful. Common tactics include: I'm only one vote out of seven — or five, in the case of Northville Councilman Kevin Hartshorne's continuing quest to remove the fee from senior citizens that play cards at the senior center.

Our request, though, is that these promises not fall by the wayside. In places like Northville, we hope elected officials will re-examine the location and size of the parking deck, regardless of whether the issue fails. Likewise in Plymouth Township, where the funding of a

proposed township hall will be decided today. Or in the City of Plymouth, where elected officials asked voters to override The Headlee Amendment, and allow them to levy additional mills to cover a projected \$1.5 million budget deficit. City officials there should look at ways to cut costs, regardless of whether the issue is approved by voters.

Voting is a duty that not enough Americans take seriously. Many are quick to criticize, even though they are not involved in the process. One way for local candidates to help restore the faith in the electoral system is to try to make good on the promises they made during their campaigns.

In short, this editorial is for everyone in elected office: don't forget the people that put you there.

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OBITUARIES

KILLIAN, Jean
Jean Killian, 86, of Romulus, died Oct. 29 in Garden City.
Among her survivors are her daughters, Rosalie (Kenneth) Berlinn of Romulus, Ann Marie (Robert) Young of Crystal Lake, IL and Phyllis (Robert) Gorlitz of Ossea; a son-in-law, Gerald Weatherhold of Taylor; 14 grandchildren, and many great-grandchildren.
Funeral services were at St. Stephen Catholic Church in New Boston where Mrs. Killian was an active volunteer and a member of the Altar Rosary Society. Father Alexander J. Wytrwal officiated at the service.
Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park in Flat Rock.

PLEWINSKI, Chester C. Jr.
Chester C. Plewinski, Jr, 63, of Belleville, died Oct. 28 in Wayne.
Among his survivors are his parents, Chester John and Phyllis Bernice (Manley) Plewinski, Sr. of Belleville; brothers, Daniel Plewinski of Houston, TX, Arthur Plewinski of Westland and Joseph (Marjorie) Plewinski of Washington, and sisters, Gail Pabon of Wayne, Gloria Jean Mandziuk of Novi, and Patty (George) Schaffeld of Belleville.
Arrangements were entrusted to the David C. Brown Funeral Home in Belleville.

ALBERTSON, Edith Emma
Edith Emma Albertson, 87, a life-long resident of Belleville, died Oct. 30 in Ann Arbor.
Among her survivors are her children, Richard (Helen) Albertson of Ann Arbor and Barbara Pearson of Wyandotte, and two grandchildren, Scott and Kurt Albertson.
Funeral services were at the David C.

Brown Funeral Home in Belleville with the Rev. Clive Dickens officiating.
Interment was at Washtenong Memorial Park in Ann Arbor.

BOLTON, Nancy Ellen
Nancy Ellen Bolton, 72, of Elgin, ILL, formerly of Ypsilanti, died Oct. 29 in Illinois.
Among her survivors are her children, Sharon (Thomas) Bingham of Minot, ND, Karen (Stephen) Sedlock of Mansfield, IL and Diana (James) Bingham of Carpentersville, ILL, and eight grandchildren, Elizabeth Cox, Angeline Bingham, Rachel Bingham, Stephen Sedlock, Sarah Sedlock, Christopher Sedlock, Daniel Bingham and Jeffrey Bingham.
Funeral services were at the David C. Brown Funeral Home with the Rev. William Bingham and the Rev. Stephen Sedlock officiating.
Interment was at Grand Lawn Cemetery in Detroit.

BIANCHI, Dora M.
Dora M. Bianchi, 53, of Inkster, died Oct. 2.
Among her survivors is her mother, Cora; her step-father, Henry, and several cousins, aunts and uncles.
Funeral services were at St. John's Missionary Baptist church with the Rev. Hardy Johnson officiating.
Interment was at Westlawn Cemetery in Wayne
Arrangements were entrusted to the Penn Funeral Home in Inkster.

HOLDSCLAW, James A.
James A. Holdsclaw, 80, of Inkster, died Oct. 1
Among his survivors are his wife of 53 years, Garnett; daughters, Sheria, Janet, Debra, and Racquel; sons, Danny and

James; a niece, Diana; a nephew, Clarence; 11 grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.
Mr. Holdsclaw was a veteran of World War II.
Funeral services were at Christ Temple Apostolic Church with District Elder Luke McClendon officiating.
Arrangements were entrusted to the Penn Funeral Home in Inkster.

CITY OF ROMULUS
APPENDIX A - ZONING
AMENDMENT 1.186

An Ordinance to Amend the Official Zoning Map of the City of Romulus by Rezoning 5.66 Acres on the north side of Ecorse Road between Inkster and Middlebelt Road from R1B (Single Family Residential) to M 1 (Light Industrial).

THE CITY OF ROMULUS ORDAINS:

- Section 1. SHORT TITLE: This Ordinance shall be known and cited as the Amended Zoning Ordinance.
- Section 2. The Official Zoning map of the City of Romulus is hereby amended to rezone Lot 813 Supervisors Romulus Plat No. 13 from R1B (Single Family Residential) to M1 (Light Industrial).
*Land in the City of Romulus, Wayne County, Michigan, being more particularly described as follows:
Lot 813 Supervisors Romulus Plat No. 13 of Part of the S.E. 114 of Section 1, T3S, R.9E, Romulus Township (Now City of Romulus), Wayne County, Michigan as recorded in Liber 68, Page 59 of Plats, W. C.R.*
- Section 3. Except as herein modified the said zoning map shall remain in full force and effect.
- Section 4. CONFLICTING PROVISIONS REPEALED: Should any section, clause or provision of this ordinance be declared by the Court to be invalid, the same shall not affect the validity of this ordinance as a whole or any part thereof, other than the part so declared to be invalid.
- Section 5. EFFECTIVE DATE: This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon publication in the official newspaper of general circulation.

Linda R. Choate, CMC Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

INTRODUCED: October 6, 2003
ADOPTED: October 13, 2003

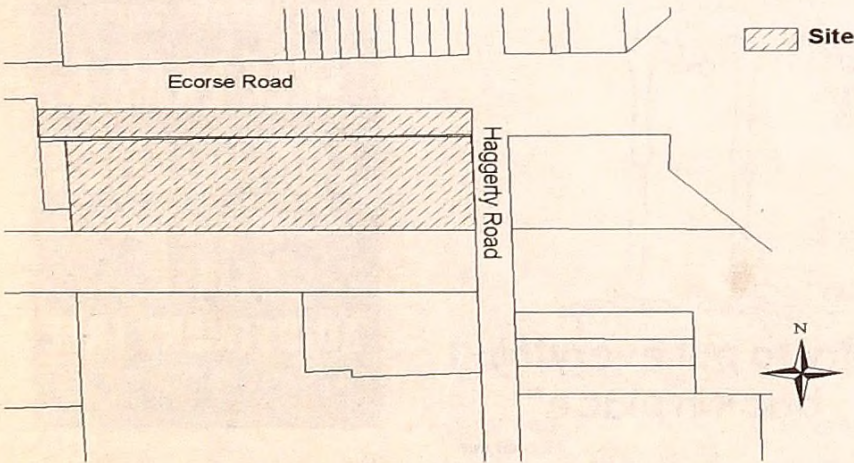
Publish: November 6, 2003

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN
PLANNING COMMISSION
PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Charter Township of Van Buren Planning Commission will hold a public hearing in the Board of Trustees Room, 46425 Tyler Road, Charter Township of Van Buren, County of Wayne, Michigan, 48111 on Wednesday November 12 at 7:30 p.m. to consider a zoning change on the following described property:

Parcel numbers V125-83-041-99-0001-714 and V125-83-041-99-0001-001, approximately 10.95 acres proposed to be rezoned from M-1 Light Industrial to C-1 General Business.

A map indicating the location of the subject site is included below.



This property is located on the south side of Ecorse Road between Morton Taylor Road and Haggerty Road.

Written comments will be accepted at the Department of Developmental Services until 5:00 p.m. on the hearing date.

In the spirit of compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals with a disability should feel free to contact the Department of Developmental Services, at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the meeting, if requesting accommodations.

Publish: November 6, 2003

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN
BIDS REQUESTED

Sealed bids for the purchase of two (2) "Class A" Pumping Fire Engines will be received in the Clerk's Office of the Charter Township of Van Buren until 2:00 p.m. (Eastern Standard Time), Thursday, November 13, 2003.

Bid packets (including specifications) are available at the Van Buren Township Clerk's Office, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Twp., MI 48111 during normal business hours. Van Buren Township reserves the right to reject any and all bids, is not required to accept the low bid and, may waive any irregularities in same and, in general to make award in any manner deemed by it, in its sole discretion to be in the best interest of the Township

INSTRUCTIONS FOR BIDDERS

Sealed bids for the purchase of two (2) 2004 Class A Pumping Fire Engines will be received in the Clerk's Office of the Charter Township of Van Buren until 2:00 p.m. (Eastern Standard Time) Thursday, November 13, 2003. Under no circumstances will any bids be accepted after the 2:00 p.m. deadline. The bids will be publicly opened and read in the Township Municipal Center, Denton Room by the office of the Township Clerk at 2:15 p.m.

BID DELIVERY

Bids must be delivered in person or sent by mail to the address indicated below. Bids will not be accepted after the date and time designated for the opening of the bids. The bidder shall assume full responsibility for the delivery of bids prior to the appointed time and transmission thereof. Bids shall be accepted any time prior to the deadline, during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Standard Time), Monday through Friday, legal holidays excepted.

All bids shall be sealed and submitted according to the instructions.

DEADLINE FOR BIDS

Two (2) copies of the sealed bid is due no later than 2:00 p.m. (Eastern Standard Time), on Thursday, November 13, 2003, addressed as follows:

Fire Apparatus bid
C/o Joannie D. Payne, Clerk
Charter Township of Van Buren
46425 Tyler Road
Belleville, MI 48111

For further information, please contact Acting Public Safety Director Allen Smolen at (734) 699-8930.

Publish: October 30, 2003
November 6, 2003

Water company wins tax abatement

Scott Spielman
Editor

The soft economy hasn't stalled growth for the Absopure Water Co.

Located in Plymouth Township, the firm plans a major expansion during the next two years that would result in a \$7.4 million investment in the township as it moves into and renovates the old Federal Pipe and Steel complex on Joy Road.

Tom Melnick, a representative for the company, said the expansion would result in 10 new jobs for the firm.

"This is all just growth," he said.

Absopure has long maintained a corporate identity in Plymouth, he said. The firm started operation in 1908, when it was an ice company that delivered goods with wagons and horse drawn carriages. It's now one of the top 10 bottled water companies in the world, as far as distribution. They employ 300 people throughout the nation, and 184 of those work in Plymouth Township, he said.

He said Absopure was going to put \$667,000 into the structure in the form of aesthetic improvements both inside and outside the building.

About \$6.4 million in new machinery would be installed, including security sys-

tems, production equipment, packaging and water filtration units. They would also install \$270,000 in new computer equipment. It would give the company 180,000 square feet of space.

The Plymouth Township Board of Trustees approved a 12-year, 50 percent tax abatement for the firm last Tuesday to help get the project under way.

"I don't normally vote for tax abatements," said Clerk Marilyn Massengill, who voted in favor of the abatement. She said she made an exception because Absopure was moving into and improving an existing building, rather than constructing a new one.

Melnick pointed out that Absopure regularly contributes to local charitable efforts like the YMCA, the Plymouth Kiwanis and Lions Clubs, as well as many others.

"We have a long record as a good corporate citizen," he said.

Township Trustee Abe Munfakh said Absopure, in effect, is a world-wide promotion of the community, since Plymouth is mentioned on every label on every bottle of water distributed.

"This is a classic example of the kind of company you want to see in the community," he said.

International sculptor opens home for fundraiser

Megahn Chatham
Staff Writer

Internationally celebrated sculptor David Barr will open his home and his private sculpture garden to guests from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. Sunday in support of the planned Baseline Road Sculpture in Northville.

The sculpture, which will be located on the southwest corner of Center Street and Eight Mile, would be the first in a series of pieces scattered across the state designed to commemorate Michigan history. The event will feature opportunities to view Barr's completed pieces and works-in-progress, live music, and a silent auction. The event is co-sponsored by the Northville Arts Commission and Northville Parks and Recreation.

According to Emily Sherman, Northville Parks and Recreation arts programming supervisor, Barr approached the city with the idea of erecting a sculpture commemorating the historical importance of Baseline Road. It is only one of the pieces Barr hopes to install across the state along Baseline Road.

"A project celebrating art, nature, and history, and recognizing the importance of Baseline Road in the surveying and settling of Michigan, this work is intended to refresh our awareness of American democratic principles and Jeffersonian ideals," said Sherman.

Sherman describes Barr as a "structuralist," inspired by naturally occurring structures, and said that he is internationally recognized for his works, which utilize both metal and natural materials. She said that the city leapt at the chance to have one of his works on display.

"We're proud to have his works in our community," said Sherman.

In addition to the prestige Barr's work

would offer the community, the city was also attracted for another reason.

"Northville, especially the Arts Commission, is very interested in getting more public art up," Sherman said. "It was a perfect opportunity."

However, with a cost of about \$17,000, Sherman said the city had to come up with fundraisers that would help cover the expense of the project. The home tour idea evolved out of this need, she said.

"We were looking for a place to do a fundraiser. He offered his home to us, and we nabbed it," said Sherman, noting that the uniqueness of Barr's Novi home made it a perfect location for the gathering.

This event is expected to raise about \$5,000 for the sculpture, with other fundraisers providing the rest of the necessary cash.

Part of the proceeds will come from the silent auction, which will feature a variety of items, from pottery and jewelry to signed posters from the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, provided by local artists, as well as items donated by local businesses.

"Everyone's helping out. It's nice," said Sherman. She added that Canton Township resident Brandon Gauvin would be providing piano music throughout the evening.

A maximum of 60 people will be included in the event, and there are still a few tickets available. A portion of the \$60 ticket price will be tax deductible.

Tickets are available for purchase from 7 a.m. until 6 p.m. through Northville Parks and Recreation Monday through Friday.

The recreation center is located at 700 W. Baseline Road.

For more information, call 248-349-0203.

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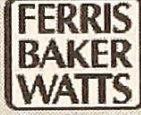
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An Open Letter to Bob Thompson, Texas Folk Hero

Dear Mr. Thompson:

We recently read of your attempted generosity to the students of Detroit. Your gesture of aid was incredibly moving and deeply inspiring to our school community, and we were saddened by the media's description of the turmoil with which your good will was received. Though our school and your home are separated by thousands of miles and several states, you have achieved folk hero status on this small Texas campus.

We know what an incredible impact a few people committed to change can make. Four years ago a few of us in our community in the Rio Grande Valley decided that we would work to ensure that all of our students would be prepared for success in a four-year college or university. We launched a public charter school serving students who are nearly all Hispanic, mostly from homes that speak only Spanish, and who are identified by the U.S. Census Bureau as economically disadvantaged. In fact, our county is in the bottom .01% of per capita wealth in the nation.

Freed from interference from unions and politics, our quest for college preparation has been driven by a simple philosophy of hard work and determination. Our students and teachers attend school from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day, on select Saturdays, and plough through a four-week summer session. On top of this, IDEA Academy pupils have up to two hours of homework each night and are held to high standards for both their personal conduct and academic progress. The formula of more time on task combined with high expectations for student performance has led to sky rocketing test scores and significant gains in achievement. While we began serving students in middle school, we have expanded one grade level at a time to keep pace as they get older. Our first graduating high school class of 2007 will be required to receive an acceptance letter from a four year college or university before they are awarded their diploma.

In spite—or perhaps because—of this rigorous recipe for success, we now face a problem: we have too many students and not enough space. We are bursting at the seams in modular classrooms located in a corn field on the outskirts of town. Soon we will run out of space for expansion. Given our situation, we are awed by your attempt to give a generous gift to build small schools throughout Detroit, and we stand shocked that there are some folks who think they have the luxury of not accepting the help of someone so committed to the public good.

Every teacher, administrator, cafeteria worker, custodian, bus driver and student at IDEA Academy has signed this open letter encouraging you to keep moving forward with your efforts to sling shot students into college.

Sincerely, *Tom Thelma* *Reginald* *Hy* *PP*

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Daniel

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Amanthe Estrada
Victorie Garcia
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Amelia Ramos
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Claudia Soto
Jackie Corti
Perla Mosqueda
Cynthia Alamo
Vanessa M. Zapata
Olga Calderon
Thomas Wacilme
Tracy
David
Go Lopez
Ramiro Galan

David Molina
Jose
Alex Rojas
Ruby Blumie
Joel Jimenez
Helenis Hyman
Samantha Martinez
Sarah Gomez
My
Amanda Smith
Valerie Garcia
Luis Omeles
Jose
Richard
Richard Mora
Juan Alar
Daniel Rodriguez
Pickle
Edy
Rosalina
Eni
Christian Castillo
Christina Perez

Ooooh, scary

Plymouth Noon Rotary Club members celebrated Halloween in fine (and scary) style last Friday when many of the members came in costume. Winners for best costumes included, from left, above, Coy Tucker, Nancy Baldwin and Ian McCluskey. Catherine Mayer, aka Supergirl, coordinated the contest and provided prizes. The costumed group also hosted a Halloween storytime for children with 35th District Judge Ron Lowe providing the not-too-scary stories for younger guests. At left below is Plymouth City Manager Paul Sincock in his traditional Tigger costume along with perennial leprechaun Ian McCluskey whom many suspected was in his genuine professional attire.



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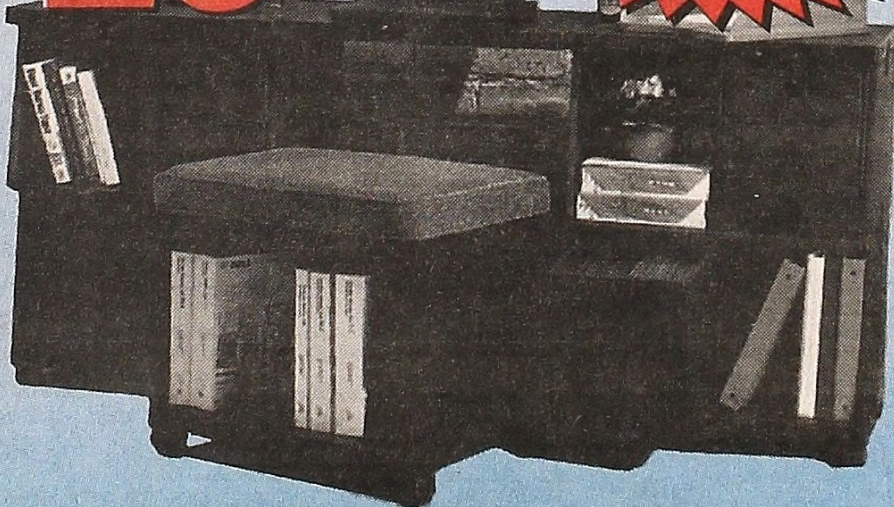


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Going strong Furniture store marks 70th year in business

Meghan Chartham
Staff Writer

Family owned and operated for three generations, Walker/Buzenberg Furniture, located at 240 N. Main St. in Plymouth, is celebrating its 70th anniversary this year with sales and promotions.

When Fred Walker opened the shop in 1933, however, it was not exclusively a furniture store.

"It actually started out selling not only furniture, but also appliances and carpets," said Eric Buzenberg, who co-owns the store with his brother, David.

Originally opened in Detroit, the store gradually moved west until it reached the current location in Plymouth.

"We saw a lot of our customers moving out this direction, and we saw it as a high growth area," said Buzenberg of the move. He said that even after 25 years in Plymouth, the company still enjoys the location. "The community is great. It's a great fit," said Buzenberg.

After Mr. Walker's unexpected death in the late 1940s or early 1950s, Buzenberg said his father, Edward, and several of Edward's cousins took over the management of the store "at a very young age."

David and Eric took over the store after their father died. However, it is unclear whether or not the store will continue to be family owned and operated as generation number four is "too young to decide at this point," said Buzenberg.

He said he doesn't foresee any real threat to the longevity of the business because of the more personal service the store is able to

offer customers. He credits the smaller size of the store for allowing the personalized service and good prices on quality furniture. Mostly, though, he credits the employees with the reputation for excellence the business has achieved.

"We have a lot of experience. We don't have a lot of turnover," said Buzenberg.

As a result, he said that customers could count on working with staff who know the business and who will make the entire process as positive as possible, from the people on the sales floor, to the office staff, to the delivery units.

He said that this leads to happy customers, who form the core of the Walker/Buzenberg business.

"We're lucky. We have a lot of return customers (and) a lot of referrals," said Buzenberg.

The location doesn't hurt, either: Buzenberg credits residents with supporting businesses in Plymouth, including his own, by bringing their

business to local shops. For now, he said that they have no plans for opening additional locations, choosing instead to continue expanding within the current store while retaining the qualities Buzenberg says have formed the core values of the store from the beginning.

"Giving the customer a quality experience," Buzenberg said, is the goal of the operation.

In order to meet this vision, he said that in addition to good prices and quality furniture and accessories, the store also offers customers a high standard of excellence in all their dealings with the



Walker/Buzenberg Furniture in Plymouth is marking 70 years in business with special promotions and sales this year. The store was founded in 1933 in Detroit and moved to Plymouth 25 years ago.

company. Today, the store offers shoppers home furnishings, accessories and accent items in a variety of styles. For more information, call Walker/Buzenberg Furniture at 734-459-1300.

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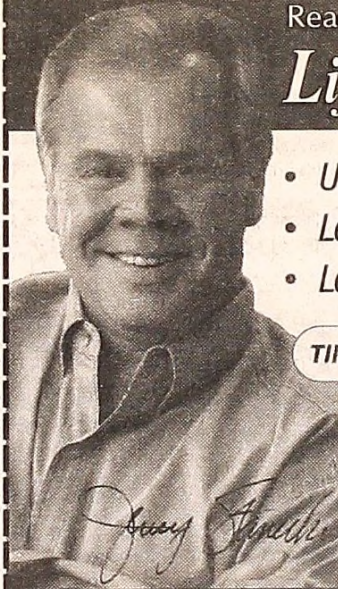
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This description is intended to describe the essential job functions, the general supplemental functions and the essential requirements for the performance of this job. It is not an exhaustive list of all duties, responsibilities and requirements of a person so classified. Other functions may be assigned and management retains the right to add or change duties at any time.

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61. Misc. Items

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We seek energetic team-members who have a strong attention to detail, integrity, enjoy working with people, and take great pride in their work and surroundings. Related skills are also necessary to qualify for the following positions:

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If you meet the description above and are interested in one of the positions listed, please join us for immediate interviews :

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9:00 to 11:00 a.m.,
12:00 to 4:00 p.m.,
5:30 to 8:00 p.m.

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Not many of those.
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unit. 2 br, 1st flr laun, cath
ceilings, loft, extras,
overlooks pond.
Great Buy at
\$154,900



PLYMOUTH
Renovated gem w/ old
world charm. 3369 sq.ft, 5-
yes, 5bdm, 3bth, maple,
granite, oak, 4 car gar., 2
furn. Walk to downtown.
You must see this home!
\$439,900



Classified

106. Houses For Sale

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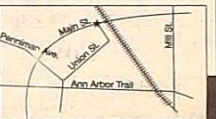
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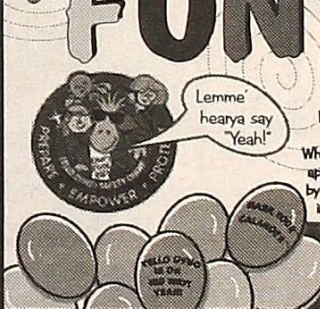
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Inkster police launch department website

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

The Inkster Police Department brought communication with city residents into the 21st Century last week with the launch of www.inksterpd.com, the new department website.

The site marks a milestone for the department as the only official presence the city has in cyberspace.

Developed by Det. Anthony Abdallah who, with the assistance of auxiliary officer Thomas Westbrook, created the site during a two-week period, the site was designed to inform citizens about what going on within the department and in the community.

"This is just another part of community policing," said

Deputy Chief Greg Gaskin. "We didn't want to wait for the city to develop its own site because sometimes that can take a long time. We think it's important for the residents to know what the various departments' functions are."

"Our (Gaskin's and Chief Marvin Winkler's) e-mail addresses are on the site," Gaskin added. "We hope people will share their concerns with us."

The site has several features, including information the roles the traffic bureau, central records, the patrol division and the criminal investigations unit play in the 60-officer department. Information about the auxiliary police and the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) program.

The police department is try-

The site marks a milestone for the department as the only official presence the city has in cyberspace.

ing to make the site a resource for the community to avoid crime instead of just a mechanism by which to make contact with the department, Abdallah said. Comprehensive information about crime prevention, motorist safety, safety for seniors and household security is available on the site. Currently, several tips on avoiding Internet predators is posted on the site; with links to other child safety sites such as Safe Surfin' and Net Nanny.

Abdallah said one of his favorite parts is the "Just for Kids" section, which provides

information kids can use to avoid getting hurt on the bicycles. A complete question and answer section tells children how to call 911 if a parent is incapacitated and provides phone numbers to child abuse hotlines and other health-related groups.

Stranger danger, staying away from guns, getting separated from parents at large events and the right way to take on bullies are other topics covered at www.inksterpd.com.

A memorial page for the four Inkster Police officers killed in the line of duty since the depart-

ment inception in 1929 is also included.

Though the city asked for bids from web development firms earlier this year, Gaskin said the police department was able to launch a site earlier than the rest of the city because they used internal resources.

"We have a lot of talent here," he said.

As of last week, the site boasted 148 hits, Abdallah said.

City officials have said they are committed to getting a site up and running in the coming months. Gaskin said that he will ask for a link on the city site.

Eventually, Abdallah said the site will have a mechanism to allow residents to order police reports on-line, though reports would have to be picked up and paid for in person.

Wayne OK's new patrol car lights

Ne'er do wells, beware.

Police cars in the City of Wayne will soon have a new look to them, and it will make them harder to detect, at least until their lights start flashing.

Wayne Police Chief Mike Sumeracki said the department had received a \$23,094 grant that will be used to re-outfit the lights atop patrol cars in the fleet.

The grant comes with a \$2,566 local match, but he said it would

ultimately save the city money and improve performance from the fleet.

Sumeracki said the new lights would address a problem long experienced by the department. The overhead 'dome-type' lights now contain a multitude of different lights that all flash in concert with each other. It requires a lot of energy to make them work, more than even the tougher alternators installed in the vehicles

can put out, Sumeracki said.

"What is happening is that our batteries are being drained," he said. "When we don't use a car for a shift, we have to charge up the battery. That's why we go through so many generators."

The new lights are sleek and efficient, he said. They only extend two inches above the roof of the car, and the 30 amps that power them contain no moving parts, so they'll last longer.

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SPORTS

Chiefs advance, defeat Wayne

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The pressure is on as the Canton Chiefs prepare to battle the John Glenn Rockets in the next round of Division 1 district playoffs tomorrow night in Canton.

They can only hope that the battle goes much the same way it went against Wayne Memorial last week – fast and easy. The Chiefs doused the Wayne Zebras with their high-octane offense and a stifling defense to take a 49-12 victory.

The Chiefs took a 7-0 lead before there was even an offensive play logged in their books. Senior Travis McKinney returned the Zebra's first punt for a 70-yard touchdown. Before the Zebras could gather their bearings it was a 21-0 ball game at the end of the first quarter.

Senior Devin Thomas scampered from 58 yards out to pay dirt and sophomore quarterback Shawn Little carried in a 27 yard

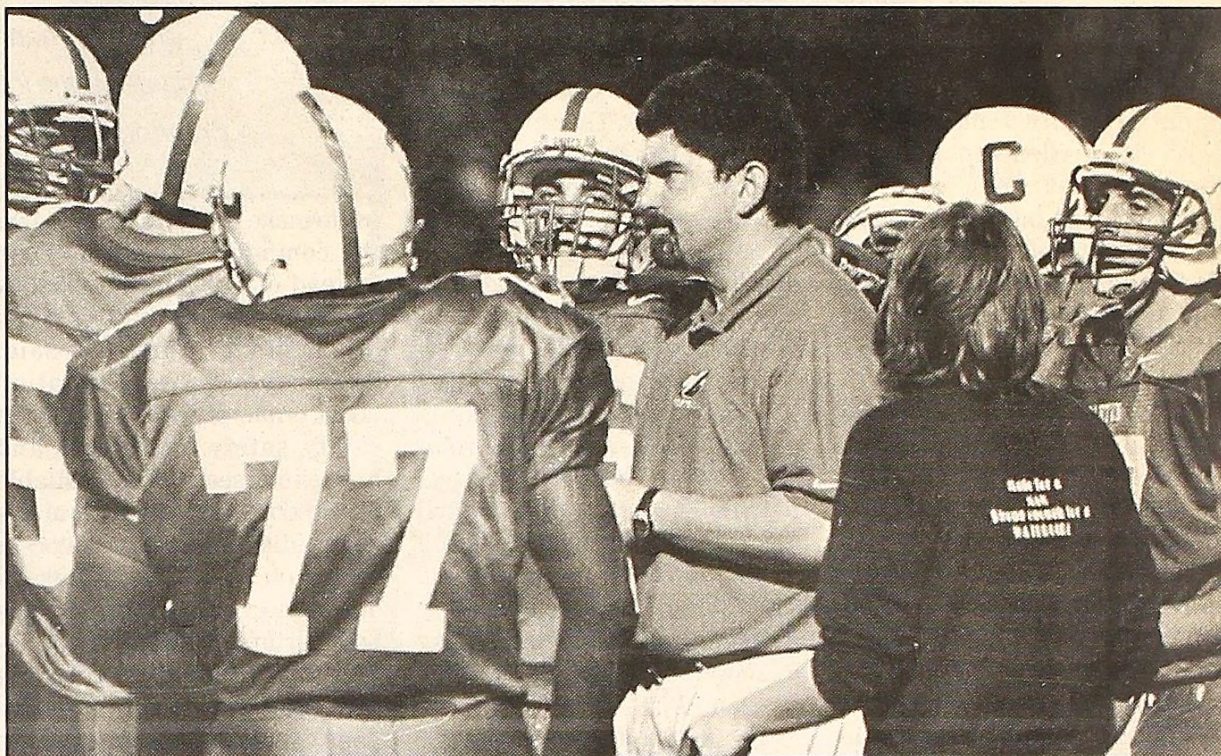
touchdown himself to end the first quarter scoring flurry.

The second quarter followed the same suit as the first with a 7-yard touchdown jaunt by McKinney to put the Chiefs up 28-0. Thomas then scored his second from 40 yards out to make it a 35-0 game at halftime.

Wayne's star tailback Tyrone Dillard had a 30-yard run to the Chiefs' 40-yard line but he was held there and the Zebras were forced to punt again, according to Canton Head Coach Tim Baechler. The Chiefs held Dillard to only 64 yards in the game.

The second half didn't get any better for Wayne and it couldn't get any better for the Chiefs. The first play in the third quarter resulted in a 56-yard touchdown run by junior fullback Chuck Schumacher that extended their lead to 42-0. Joe Zugay finished the scoring for Canton with a 25-yard sprint to the end zone.

Schumacher led the team in yards with 115 on 10 carries and



Canton Head Coach Tim Baechler consults his team during their 49-12 victory over Wayne. Baechler and the Chiefs will play John Glenn tomorrow night in round two of the playoffs.

a touchdown. Thomas racked up 94 yards on four carries and McKinney totaled 55 yards on 7 carries to round out the massive ground assault.

Wayne managed two fourth-quarter touchdowns to avoid a shutout. Brad Wilson connected with Jerrelle Borden for a four-yard touchdown pass and Terill Ford busted loose for a 60-yard dash to score.

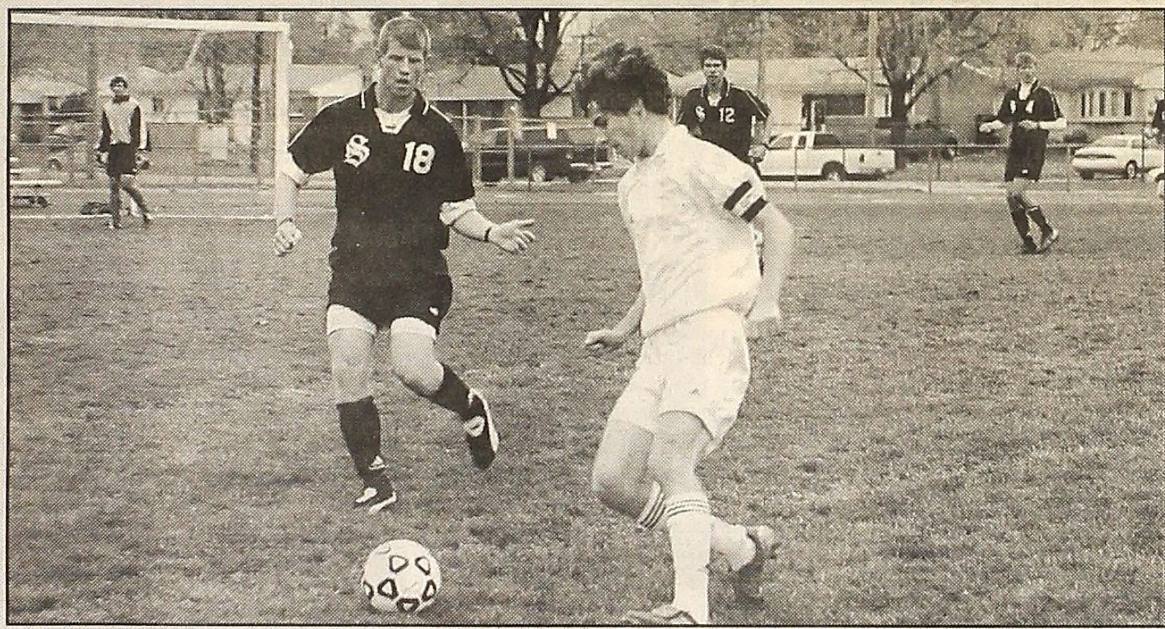
Although the Zebras' post-season was quickly ended, they made great strides from last year to make it to the playoffs. First year Head Coach Craig Hnatuk turned the 1-8 Zebras of last year into a serious division threat this year and could be a leading contender in the future. Hnatuk was unavailable for comment about the end of the season.

As for the Chiefs, they have a

defensively tough Glenn team to worry about, a team that also happens to have a balanced offensive.

"They have a great tailback," Baechler said. "Even when nobody seems to be blocking him, he gains yards."

"They have improved a lot during the season, but so have we. We're going to have to do what we do – play our game."



The Northville Mustangs lost to Saline 2-1 in a shootout after two scoreless overtime periods.

Mustangs fall to Saline in regionals

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

Throughout the post season the Northville Mustangs were able to pull out victories against teams they lost to in the regular season, until they fell 2-1 to Saline in a shootout last Saturday in the Division 1 regional soccer playoffs hosted at Southgate Anderson High School.

"It was a tough one to swallow," said Northville coach Henry Klimes. "I thought we played well and at times dominated. I'm proud of the boys – they worked hard and deserved to win."

The game went scoreless through the first half but it was Northville's Jackson Knoll that scored off of a pass from Mike

Cornelius to give the Mustangs a 1-0 lead. Saline knocked one past goalie Steve Besk to tie the game and to send it into overtime.

Despite out shooting Saline 8-1 through two periods of overtime play the game remained tied and shoot-out was forced.

"Our shooters were off and their goalie made some great saves," Klimes said. "Besk made some great saves but one got by."

"It was a great game, it just didn't go in our favor."

The loss ended an emotional run for the Mustangs.

Saline was the Mustang's third attempt at post-season redemption against teams they lost to in the regular season. After a loss to Novi in the regular season, Northville came back to beat the No.3-ranked team in the state 3-2 in the district playoffs.

They also beat Stevenson 2-1 for the District 1 Championship after losing to them 2-0 in the regular season and tying them 2-2 in the conference playoff match.

The Mustangs also beat Dearborn in the first round of district playoff, which resulted in the rematch against Saline. Northville lost 1-0 against Saline in the regular season but couldn't obtain the post-season trifecta by beating them in regional play.

"You have to pay the price to be a championship team and you have to learn from it," he said. "Hopefully we've gained respect and a reputation that we're a team to be reckoned with."

The Mustangs will celebrate their season with their annual banquet Monday night where they will present team awards.

Rockets escape Saline

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

You just got beat for a touchdown that brought the opponent within a two-point conversion from tying a playoff game. It's a mistake that could cost your team the chance to continue in the post-season – what do you do?

Find some red paint; paint a giant "S" on your chest; and save the day – that's what you do. That's what John Glenn's defensive back John Adams did when faced with that situation last week against a Saline football team that set out to destroy the hopes of innocent Rockets fans.

Okay, so Adams didn't paint an "S" on his chest but he did save the day. Adams was beat deep for a touchdown that made it a 28-26 game with 33 seconds left on the clock. Glenn's two-point lead forced Saline to go for the tie with a two-point conversion.

Any normal high school player would have crumbled under the pressure but Adams redeemed himself as he dove through the air and swatted the pass down to seal the win for the Rockets.

Take a deep breath because that was only the final 33 seconds of the game.

The rest of the night John Glenn's offense was a two-headed monster with junior quarterback Vinnie DeLuca slinging thunderbolts from his arm socket and tailback Matt Smitherman trampling across the field to lead the Rockets to victory. DeLuca ended the night 8-16 for 130

yards, and two touchdowns. Smitherman trounced Saline for 220 yards on 26 carries and had two scores.

Saline struck first blood, though, when tailback Paul Dapkus scampered 10 yards for a touchdown in the first quarter.

The Rockets were undaunted by the assault and DeLuca attacked back with a 19-yard strike to Nathan Beard with 2:36 left in the first quarter and the game was tied at 7.

Smitherman joined in the fun when he busted through the middle, broke a tackle and sped 30 yards for his first score. The extra point was good to give the Rockets a 14-7 lead going into the half.

DeLuca extended the lead in the third quarter with a two-yard sneak into the end zone, which was set up by a 44-yard run by Eric Chambers. The extra point was blocked to make it a 20-7 game.

The game wasn't entirely offensive heroics, though. Glenn's defense performed some valiant feats as well. Jacob Fairchild, Brian Peterson and Chambers all had key interceptions in the game. Peterson's interception set up Smitherman's second touchdown mid third quarter when he plowed into the end zone from five yards out and DeLuca ran in the two-point conversion to extend their lead 28-7.

It was at that moment that Saline seemed to awaken from a

See **Rockets**, page 19

Eagles top Trenton, 46-45

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

Romulus moved ahead in the Mega White division with a heart pounding emotional 46-45 win against Trenton last Thursday.

Things looked bleak for the Eagles, down by two points with only 12 seconds left and no timeouts until Deborah Anderson sank a three-pointer with seven seconds left to put them up by one. Trenton was forced to throw up a hail-marry from the backcourt with three seconds left and missed.

"With that much time and no timeouts all you can do is communicate with signs to the players and all you can hope for is that what we practice pays off," said Romulus coach Rhonda McAllister. "I've been stressing to the team in practice that they penetrate and kick the ball out and be patient and take good shots.

"We weren't patient on offense in the first half," McAllister said. "We executed very well in the second half"

Just like in practice Erika Mims made a perfect pass to Anderson, who was a few feet beyond the three-point line and let it fly.

"It was a long shot but as soon as she let it go you knew it was good," McAllister said. "I was so glad that it was Anderson that made the shot. She's a senior and has been on varsity for four years. I put her out there to get another shooter and I told her that they were going to double up on Janiece (Armstrong) and Erika (Mims).

"She's such a smart player - she was patient and stayed back and she got a perfect pass from Mims."

She said that they practiced that exact situation the day before and made it successful.

"They made the shot in practice and it was like we had just won the state championship," she said.

They may not have won the state championship against Trenton but it moved them one step closer to a Mega White championship. Their win and a Dearborn loss moved them into first place in the league.

This was the Eagles second win against

a quickly improving Trenton team.

"Trenton has to be the most improved team in the Mega White - they're a different team than a few weeks ago," McAllister said. "They controlled the boards throughout the game. They're going to be tough. They are peaking right now."

The Eagle managed the game with out their star rebounder, Alicia Harbor, who was out with an illness. Harbor has averaged 13 rebounds a game this season, according to McAllister.

"Trenton was able to get key rebounds and Alicia's absence really hurt us," she said. "But, we had players step up to fill in."

Ashley Sibby led the Eagles with nine nabbed rebounds, Constance Kersey and Mims each had seven and Anderson grabbed five.

Janiece Armstrong scored 16 points to lead Romulus. Mims added 10 points and six assists including one on Anderson's wining shot and Sibby put up eight points for the team.

The game was tough all the way around with the Eagles only shooting 16-42 from the two-point range, 2-8 from the three-point rage and made only 50 percent from the line.

"That's unlike us," McAllister said. "But we made the last one when we needed it."

Romulus 57, Woodhaven 45

Before the close call with Trenton, the Eagle took on and beat Woodhaven 57-45 last Tuesday.

Sibby and Armstrong led Romulus with 16 points each, Mims Scored nine and Harbor added seven points and snatched 12 rebounds.

"It was a pretty balanced game," McAllister said. "We didn't play bad but it wasn't our best game either."

After the wins last week the players were treated to a long weekend off from practice.

"We're looking forward to the next couple of weeks," McAllister said. "I just hope that the long weekend rejuvenates us."

Romulus plays Edsel Ford tonight and will finish their regular season next week against tough league opponents Garden City and Dearborn.

Tigers trounce Southgate, but fall to Inkster Vikings

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The roller coaster ride continues for the Belleville Tigers' girls' varsity basketball team, who split home games last week against Inkster and Southgate.

The Tigers seemed to be at the top of their game last Thursday when they put together four solid quarters to take home a 46-37 victory against Southgate.

Freshman Taylor Manley led with 15 points and senior Chelsea Acho knocked in 13 for the team.

The win was a complete 180-degree turn from the 20-point loss they suffered from Southgate earlier in the season. The Tigers were consistent through three quarters of play and scored 11 points in each and put the game away with 13 points in the fourth.

"The girls keep working game by game," said Belleville coach Kevin Edwards. "They're starting to put their quickness together. They're starting to understand their speed and how to use it and they're getting better on defense."

Edwards still says that the team's ups and downs are related to having a young

team that consists of mostly sophomores and juniors with two starting freshman and only one senior.

"It's a lot to ask of freshmen to step up to the varsity level let alone to carry the team," Edwards said. "That's a lot of pressure on their shoulders."

The win against Southgate put the Tigers on top of a summit after plummeting against Inkster last Tuesday night. The Vikings derailed the Tigers 68-22.

"We just couldn't score," Edwards said. "We were only 1-17 in the first quarter. Against a team like Inkster you have to make those shots."

The lackluster offense wasn't the only problem that Belleville encountered. The Tigers turned the ball over 32 times, which helped the Vikings trounce ahead for the lopsided victory.

There were some positive points to the loss - Manley scored eight points to lead the team and the girls were able to beat the press at times, Edwards said.

The Tigers are sitting atop their summit waiting to see if they will continue to climb the ever-surmounting hill or if they will they roll over the edge and plunge against Saline and Lincoln Park this week.

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Chiefs wrap up division, beat Salem, Western

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The Canton Chiefs started out with a bang by defeating neighboring rivals the Salem Rocks 41-38 on the courts last week.

"It was your typical Canton-Salem game," said Canton coach Bob Blohm. "It was tough all the way through like it always is."

Junior Katie Cezat narrowly missed a triple-double as she led the Chiefs with 25 points, 14 rebounds and eight blocked shots. Rachele Guastella added

seven points, five assists and nabbed four rebounds for the Chiefs.

The tough match up produced a 21 pint tie at the halfway mark. Both teams came out of halftime tentatively with Canton only scoring five points in the third quarter but they were able to hold Salem to zero.

"Both teams were really tight," Blohm said. "Lisa Ealy hit for two and a free throw and Guastella hit two and that was it. The game opened up a little in the fourth."

Canton scored 17 points in the

fourth quarter but Salem went on a rally led by Carly Schwan. She led their side with 12 points but nailed three three-pointers in the fourth quarter to get them back in the game, Blohm said.

Despite the efforts of Schwan and Ellen Canale, who scored 10 for the Rocks, they couldn't get ahead to steal the victory from the Chiefs.

The crossover rivalry game didn't affect either team in division standings. The Rocks had already sewn up the Lakes Division and the loss would only

have affected their standings in the case of a tie in their division.

The Chiefs locked up the Western division with a 45-38 win against Walled Lake Western last Thursday.

Free throws were the key to the game, Blohm said. The Chiefs managed to hit 15-21 of the shots from the line, 7-11 in the fourth quarter. Western hit 4-10.

"Western had a solid first half and third quarter," Blohm said. "We really had to dig down."

Lisa Ealy did just that and scored 15 points and grabbed 10

rebounds to lead the Chiefs and Cezat added 11 points. Guastella nailed 4-6 from the line and the Chiefs defense held Western to four points in the fourth quarter to help put the game away.

Canton, with a 15-2 overall record and an 11-0 conference record, moves on to play Franklin on the road tonight, which will finish off the regular schedule before the playoffs start on Nov. 12.

"Our goal, now, is to finish undefeated in the conference," Blohm said.

Robichaud hoopsters hold off Plymouth High School, 42-39

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

It was a fight to the end in tight rematch of the Dearborn Heights Robichaud Bulldogs and the Plymouth Wild Cats last Friday night in Plymouth.

The Bulldogs nipped their way to a 42-39 victory while the Wild Cats battled tooth and nail to redeem themselves from an earlier loss against Robichaud.

Robichaud led through the first half but never by more than four points and the first half ended 22-18 with them controlling the pace of the game. The Wild Cats came out strong in the third and took the lead for the first time with 1:20 left in the quarter but it was senior Mary

Riley that put in a three-pointer to put Robichaud back on top 30-28.

It was Riley that seemed to score at will or at least when Robichaud needed it the most. She led the team with 21 points - 15 were off of three-pointers. She moved into foul trouble in the fourth quarter when coach Warren Woods had to sit her with less than a minute to go and the score 40-37.

Shanika Boden and Britney Smiley also hit crucial three-pointers to keep Robichaud in the lead.

Plymouth hit a free throw to move within two with 25 seconds left to play, but Shakira Patillo hit two crucial free throws to put the Bulldogs up 42-38 with 20 sec-

onds left. Patillo finished the game with nine points.

Plymouth was sent to the line once more but could only sink one of the shots to make it a 42-39 game with three seconds left. The backcourt hail Mary fell short for Plymouth to end the game.

Jeanine Moise led the Wild Cats with 17 points. Janet Hanchett added eight points and Collen Flaherty put in seven for the team.

"We made some mistakes at the end but I want us to stay positive and learn from them," said Plymouth coach Richelle Reilly. "No matter what, you can't replace the intensity and effort we played with."

"This was an opportunity to

prove that we were a better team than we were a month ago."

Last month the same two teams squared off in a lopsided battle that resulted in a 45-28 Robichaud victory. In that game the Wild Cats were outscored 28-9 in the first half but battled back and outscored the Bulldogs 19-17 in the second half.

In Friday's game, Plymouth showed their improvement and remained close through the entire game.

"They're a fundamentally solid, well coached team," Woods said. "It was a gut check and we pulled it out. We needed that - it was icing on the cake."

The Plymouth game was the third game for Robichaud last week. They played a top

Annapolis team on Tuesday night and Melvindale the night before Plymouth.

"I didn't really know what to expect from the game," Woods said. "I know that it was the girls third game and they were tired, but they pulled it out."

Robichaud 59, Melvindale 36

Riley led with 22 points and Smiley added 8 in the loss.

Riley led again with an astonishing 38 points and Patillo notched 11 points.

The Bulldogs will play Highland Park tonight on the road and will finish out the regular season against River Rouge and Kennedy next week.

The Plymouth Wild Cats don't play until Nov. 14 at Ann Arbor Green Hills.

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The Eagles reign as the Mega Conference Blue Division champions. Team members include: (front row) Sabrina Hool, Carla Broom, Lauren Block, Amber Netter, Carissa Drobil, Sabrina Gomes, (second row) Jennifer Hunter, Jazmine Bennett, Katie Hale, Anica Coate, (third row) Jessica Dick, Jennifer Dick, Natalie Watt and Kristen Achley.

Road to redemption

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

It was months, an entire season in fact, in the making – a tale of redemption and triumph. Battles were fought some were won and only two were loss and it was up to a team of teenage girls led by a veteran coach Dan Stearn to conquer the Mega Conference Blue Division. That's the story of the Romulus Eagles' varsity tennis team.

The Eagles finished in second place in their division with a 12-2 overall record and a 9-2 league record. Their only two losses came against Thurston in the month of September.

Katie Hale beat Thurston at the No. 4 singles to take a gold in the tournament, as did No. 1 doubles team of Carissa Drobil and Sabrina Hool, No. 2 doubles team of Lauren Block and Jennifer Hunter and freshman twins Jennifer and Jessica Dick at No. 4 doubles. All four gold medal bouts were against Thurston players.

Carla Broom and Jazmine Bennett took home silver medals in No. 1 and No. 2 singles competition and No. 3 doubles team of Amber Netter and Anica Coate also captured a silver medal finish. Sabrina Gomes won a bronze medal in the tournament at No. 3 singles.

It will be a tough road for the league

Rockets

FROM PAGE 16

slumber.

Quarterback Sean Brown connected with wide-out Brian Feldkamp for a 23-yard touchdown pass with less than five minutes in the third quarter: he extra point attempt was no good but Saline was on the board again and trailed 28-13.

Dapkus scored on a 25-yard run to move Saline within eight with 6:41 left in the game. Brown connected with Feldkamp one last time for a 65-yard touchdown with 33 seconds remaining. The rest is history.

"It was a huge win," said Glenn Head Coach Chuck Gordon. "They're a very good team. We really had to battle and fight down to the end. It's good to see the players come through in a situation like that."

It would be nice to say that everyone lived happily ever after but there's a storm brewing in Canton and it's ready to wipe out anything on it's path to a championship. The Rockets gear up for a tough match against the Chiefs tomorrow night.

"Canton's a good team," Gordon said. "They ran the schedule in the regular season. They're very good at what they do and well coached. We're going to have to play our best game of the year."

champions next year after they lose six seniors to graduation in June.

"We had a great season," Stearn said. "In their four years the seniors compiled a 46-11-1 record with two league championships and three tournament championships."

The seniors won't be the only ones missed next year. After 13 years as the Romulus tennis coach, Stearn, announced his retirement last week at the tennis team's season-end party.

"It was time," he said. "It was a great way to go out. They are great kids and coaches are only as good as the kids. That's why I stayed at Romulus so long."

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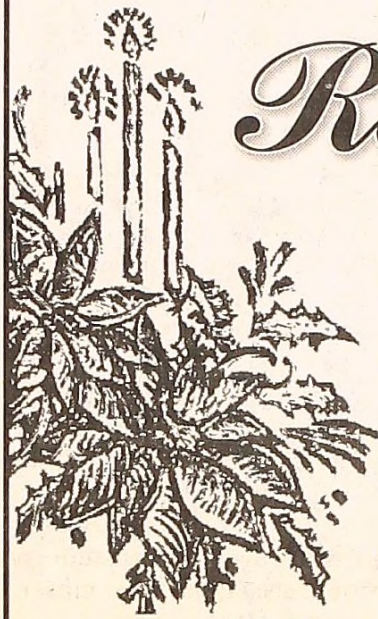
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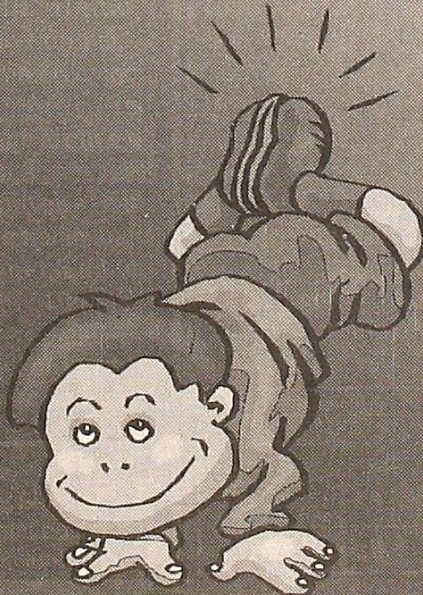
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